

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1969**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Steven Ultrino and James B. Eldridge*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a special commission on two-generation approaches to childhood education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/19/2017</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/25/2017</i>
<i>Carmin L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Natalie Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Rady Mom</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1969**

By Representative Ultrino of Malden and Senator Eldridge, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1969) of Steven Ultrino, James B. Eldridge and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) of anti-poverty strategies aimed at reducing chronic, multi-generational family poverty. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**

An Act establishing a special commission on two-generation approaches to childhood education.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. (a) There shall be a special commission entitled the Special Commission on  
2 Two-Generation Approaches to study and make recommendations concerning the  
3 implementation of two-generation systems in the commonwealth, as defined by focusing on  
4 creating opportunities for and addressing needs of both vulnerable parents and children together.

5 (b) For the purposes of this commission, a “Two-Generation Approach” shall mean an  
6 anti-poverty strategy aimed at reducing chronic, multi-generational family poverty by getting  
7 better outcomes for the child, parents, and community simultaneously. The commission shall: (1)  
8 measure and account for outcomes for both children and their parents; (2) engage and listen to  
9 the voice of families; (3) foster innovation and evidence together, (4) align and link systems and  
10 funding streams, (5) prioritize intentional implementation, and (6) ensure equity.

11 (c) The commission shall consist of the following: the co-chairs of the joint committee on  
12 children, families and persons with disabilities or a designee who shall serve as co-chairs; the co-  
13 chairs of the joint committee on education or designee; the commissioner of early education and  
14 care or a designee; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education or a designee;  
15 commissioner of the department of higher education or a designee; commissioner of the  
16 department of transitional assistance; secretary of labor and workforce development or a  
17 designee; secretary of housing and economic development or designee; 6 persons to be appointed  
18 by the commission co-chairs, 3 of whom shall be representatives of community-based  
19 organizations that have experience working with youth and families, 2 of whom shall be  
20 representatives of research, educational, and philanthropic institutions specializing in education  
21 including early childhood education, and 1 of whom shall be a representative of an organization  
22 with interest in two-generation approaches.

23 (d) The commission shall: (1) solicit information and input from service providers,  
24 families, educational institutions, and any other parties or entities the commission deems  
25 appropriate; review and identify best practices learned from similar efforts in other states and  
26 codify the core components of a model two-generation approach for parents and their children;  
27 (2) establish a two-generational school/employment readiness plan to promote long-term  
28 learning and economic success for low-income families by addressing intergenerational barriers  
29 to school readiness and workforce readiness with intensified workforce training and targeted  
30 education, coupled with related support services; (3) study and make recommendations for inter-  
31 agency resources and services and to best maximize existing state resources available to fund an  
32 expansion of two-generation approaches for parents and their children; (4) develop  
33 recommendations to measure and evaluate progress for both children and their parents through

34 specified dual generation approaches that result in improved outcomes; (5) identify and make  
35 recommendations for a new and sustainable funding source for two-generation approaches; and  
36 (6) establish a definition for “Two Generation Approach” for the commonwealth.

37 (e) Members of the commission shall be named and the commission shall commence its  
38 work within 60 days of the effective date of this act. The commission shall report to the general  
39 court the results of its study, together with any draft legislation necessary to implement two-  
40 generation approaches in the commonwealth by filing the same with the clerks of the senate and  
41 the house of representatives and the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on education  
42 and the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities, not more than 365  
43 days after the effective date of this act.